

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02

OES-07 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 FEA-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

OIC-02 /187 W

-----250158Z 025327 /70

R 241720Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3723

UNCLAS USUN 1627

FROM LOS DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS CONFERENCE SITREP

1. THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE THIRD UN LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE GOT UNDER WAY MAY 23 WITH HORTATORY STATEMENTS FROM UN SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM AND CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE. THE 150-NATION CONFERENCE AGREED TO FOCUS THE FIRST THREE WEEKS OF THE EIGHT-WEEK SESSION ON COMMITTEE I (DEEP SEABEDS) AT THE HEAD OF DELEGATION LEVEL. RESPONDING TO COMPLAINTS FROM LAND-LOCKED GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED STATES (LLGDS), THE CONFERENCE ALSO AGREED TO PERMIT CONCURRENT INFORMAL MEETINGS IN COMMITTEES II (CONTINENTAL SHELF, III (ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE), AND PART IV OF RSNT (DISPUTE SETTLEMENT). PRESIDENT AMERASHINGHE PLANS TO PRODUCE A NEW COMPOSITE NEGOTIATING TEXT AFTER THE FIFTH WEEK.

2. IN ITS FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS, THE CONFERENCE UNANIMOUSLY UNCLASSIFIED

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GRANTED OBSERVER STATUS TO THE UN COUNCIL ON NAMIBIA. IN ADDITION, SOVIET AND OTHER DELEGATES WELCOMED THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM (SRV), THE SOVIETS TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO HAIL THE "SELFLESS STRUGGLE BY THE PEOPLE OF VIET-NAM AGAINST IMPERIALISM."

3. BOTH WALDHEIM AND AMERASINGHE ASSOCIATED THE LOS

CONFERENCE WITH EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (NIEO). WALDHEIM, NOTING THE WIDENING GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR NATIONS, SAID THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' ACCESS TO THE RICHES OF THE SEA WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE EQUITABLE AND BETTER-FUNCTIONING WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM. FAILURE TO ARRIVE AT A TREATY WOULD NOT ONLY SET BACK EFFORTS TO REVAMP THE WORLD ECONOMY BUT ALSO UNDERMINE THE UN AS A FORUM FOR PROMOTING WORLD ORDER, HE ADDED

4. AMERASINGHE DECLARED THAT UNLESS THE CONFERENCE REACHED AGREEMENT IN TWO MORE SUBSTANTIVE SESSIONS, IT WILL BE OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS. HE SCORED RECENT UNILATERAL OCEAN CLAIMS OF NATIONS AND NOTED THAT THE TECHNICALLY ADVANCED COUNTRIES WERE "POISED" TO UNDERTAKE SEABED MINING ON THEIR OWN.

5. IN A SUBSEQUENT INTERVENTION, HOWEVER, ECUADOR (BUSTAMANTE) ASSERTED THAT THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE (EEZ) IS A ZONE OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION WITH THE COASTAL STATE RETAINING RESIDUAL RIGHTS AND SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OVER ALL REPEAT ALL RESOURCES, INCLUDING MIGRATORY SPECIES.
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Message Attributes

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